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BLFORE THE ARTZONON CORPORATION COMMISSION DOCKETED

2 WILLIAM A. MUNDELL
CHAIRMAN
JIM IRVIN
COMMISSIONER
MARC SPITZER

COMMISSIONER

MAR 3 0 2001

DOCKETED BY

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF COCHISE COUNTY TO CONSTRUCT A GRADE-SEPARATED CROSSING OF THE SAN PEDRO AND SOUTHWESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY, AT BISBEE JUNCTION ROAD, IN CHOCHISE COUNTY, ARIZONA, AT AAR/DOT NO. RR271+32.85.

DOCKET NO. RR- 02854A-01-0056

DECISION NO. 635/4

OPINION AND ORDER

DATE OF HEARING:

February 14, 2001

PLACE OF HEARING:

Phoenix, Arizona

PRESIDING OFFICER:

Marc E. Stern

APPEARANCES:

Mr. Robert Metli, Staff Attorney, Legal Division, on behalf of the Utilities Division of the Arizona Corporation Commission.

BY THE COMMISSION:

On January 16, 2001, Cochise County ("County") filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") a request for approval to construct a grade-separated crossing over the San Pedro and Southwestern Railway Company ("Railroad") track where Bisbee Junction Road crosses, the Railroad's tracks in the County at AAR/DOT No. RR271+32.85 ("Application").

On January 25, 2001, by Procedural Order, the Application was set for a hearing and the County was ordered to notify any interested party of the Application and the hearing.

The County provided notice pursuant to the terms of the Procedural Order.

On February 14, 2001, a full public hearing was held before a duly authorized Administrative Law Judge of the Commission at its offices in Phoenix, Arizona. At the conclusion of the hearing, the matter was taken under advisement pending submission of a recommended Opinion and Order to the Commission.

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Having considered the entire record herein and being fully advised in the premises, the

Commission finds, concludes, and orders that:

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FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On January 18, 2001, the County filed an Application in which it requested an Opinion and Order from the Commission to approve an agreement between the County and the Railroad for the construction of a grade-separated crossing over the track of the Railroad where Bisbee Junction Road crosses the Railroad's tracks in the County AAR/DOT No. RR271+38.25
- 2. The County provided notice of the Application and hearing thereon in accordance with the law.
 - 3. A hearing was held as scheduled on February 14, 2001.
- 4. The Application provides for the County to replace an old wooden overpass that was removed approximately six years ago with a new concrete overpass which will extend above the tracks of the Railroad where Bisbee Junction Road crosses the Railroad's tracks.
- 5. Staff testified that the apportionment for the cost of the overpass as provided in the Application will be funded by the County with federal funds.
- 6. After construction of the grade-separated crossing, the Railroad will not be responsible to maintain the crossing in accordance with A.A.C. R14-5-104 because the Bisbee Junction roadway will be maintained by the County.
 - 7. Staff has recommended that the Application be approved.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Commission has jurisdiction over the parties and over the subject matter of the Application pursuant to Article XV of the Arizona Constitution and A.R.S. §§ 40-336, 40-337, and 40-337.01.
 - 2. Notice of the Application was provided in accordance with the law.
- 3. The construction of the grade-separated crossing at Bisbee Junction Road is necessary for the public's convenience and safety.
 - 4. The Application should be approved as recommended by Staff.

DECISION NO. <u>635/4</u>

ORDER IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Application of Cochise County for approval of a new overpass at Bisbee Junction road is hereby granted. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the San Pedro and Southern Railway Company shall notify the Commission, in writing, within ten days of both the commencement and the completion of the grade-separated crossing, pursuant to A.A.C. R14-5-104. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately. BY ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, BRIAN C. McNEIL, Executive Secretary of the Arizona Corporation Commission, have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of Phoenix, this day of March, 2001. BRIAN C. McNEIL **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY** DISSENT MES:mli

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1	SERVICE LIST FOR:	SAN PEDRO COMPANY	AND	SOUTHWESTERN	RAILWAY
2	DOCKET NO.	RR-02854A-01	-0056		
3	Akram Friekh, P.E.				
4	Highway and Floodplain Dept., Project Mar	nager			
5	Cochise County 1415 W Melody Lane				
6	Bisbee, Arizona 85603				
7	SWKR Operating Company, Inc. San Pedro & Southwestern Railway Co. P. O. Box 1420				
8	Benson, Arizona 85602-1420				
9	Don Thompson, Railroad Safety Supervisor	r			
10	Office of Railroad Safety ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION	ON			
11	1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007				
12	Christopher Kempley, Chief Counsel				
13	Legal Division ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION	ON			
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15	Deborah Scott, Director				
16	Utilities Division ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION COMMI	ON			
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